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PRESS SHEET

An

Educational Pictures
Special

OCIL 21518

GUNNAR KASSON AND BALTO

BALTOS RACE TO NOME

The soul stirring struggle of man and dogs to save a plague stricken city.

Produced by Sol Lesser



EDUCATIONAL FILM EXCHANGES, Inc.

1784

"BALTO'S RACE TO NOME" A REENACTMENT OF HEROIC RACE TO SAVE A PLAGUE-STRICKEN CITY

No More Gripping or Thrilling Drama Ever Presented on Stage or Screen Than this Life and Death Struggle.

No more gripping drama has ever been thrown upon the screen than the picturization of the historic exploit of a canine hero—"Balto's Race To Nome" with Gunnar Kasson and Balto, the heroes of the race, reenacting for the camera and for historic record, the wonderful race to save the diphtheria stricken city of Nome.

One who watches the unfolding of this product of the cameraman's art has to pinch himself repeatedly to

realize that this is a bit of real life and not the fantastic imaginings of a scenarioist.

The racing dogs, the all but stricken driver, the limitless wastes of snow, all serve to bring to the mind of the onlooker a realization of the suffering involved in what probably will be the last chapter in the winning of America's far distant frontiers.

Gunnar Kasson, the six foot hero of the dash that saved the Alaskan town from a diphtheria epidemic, already has won a place among the nation's heroes. But Balto, a pure-blooded Siberian, lead dog of a team of heroic canine toilers that struggled on through blizzards, high winds and a temperature that at times reached a low level of more than fifty degrees below zero, has gained a place in the hearts of all red-blooded Americans.

Entirely apart from the tremendous grip of this human drama, the onlooker cannot fail to fall under the sway of the remarkable beauty of the photographic effects. Much of the picture was shot on a plateau high up on the slopes of Mt. Ranier when twenty feet of snow covered not only the ground but most of the trees. If scenic artists can produce a picture background that will approach this for sheer awe inspiring beauty we have not yet seen it.

"This is a picture that will do more to make real Americans than a ton of historical books," said Major H. L. Suydam, President of the Alaska Yukon Club in Los Angeles. "It shows, just what one man and an equally heroic team of dogs, did under the most terrific handicaps that nature could heap in their path."

Kasson was one of the drivers who volunteered to take the life-saving serum on one of the stages of the perilous journey. He reached the end of his portion of the relay and his relief was nowhere in sight, so Kasson pushed on. Word had been received that a terrific storm made the trail impassable but Kasson had already left when the word came. He soon encountered this terrible blizzard so severe that his terrible blizzard, so severe that his lead dog hesitated and then stopped. No amount of urging could make him face the stinging wind and blinding snow. Kasson substituted another dog for the lead, but he, too, faltered and refused to go forward.

Two more dogs were tried in the lead position but each in turn suc-

cumbed to the heavy work and killing storm and refused to go forward.

Kasson then took Balto, the shaft dog, from his position next to the sled and harnessed him in the lead dog's position. Balto was the smallest dog in the outfit, but the little Siberian stuck his nose into the storm and folstuck his nose into the storm and fol-lowed the trail through a blizzard so dense that Kasson himself could not see the trail twenty feet ahead nor could he make out Balto, plunging through the night and the storm, breasting the drifts and literally drag-ging the exhausted and dispirited team with its precious cargo behind him until they staggered into the streets of Nome.



GUNNAR KASSON and BALTO RACE TO NOME" Educational Special For Electro Order No. 3689-E For Mat (Free) Order No. 3689-M

A WORD TO EXHIBITORS:

When you present "Balto's Race To Nome" you are showing your audiences a faithful reproduction of a deed of heroism that has attracted more wide-spread attention than any similar exploit in a generation.

This is NOT a picture filmed with actors and studio "props." It is an actual reproduction of a historic event that will live in song and story as long as the exploits of dauntless pioneers are remembered. It is reenacted for the camera solely because time could not be given to the cameramen on the original dash to Nome, while hundreds of lives hung in the balance.

Gunnar Kasson, with a thoroughness that made his conquest of the elements in an Alaskan winter possible, brought not only Balto, his entire dog team, his sledge and every bit of paraphernalia back to Ranier National Park for use in this picture, but faithfully rehearsed every step of his torturous battle with winds, blizzards and a temperature of fifty degrees below zero, while cameras cranked.

Wherever this picture has been shown it has been greeted by the newspapers as a news event. Wherever Kasson and Balto have been seen they have been greeted with elaborate receptions. It is unnecessary to build up interest in Balto or Kasson. It is only necessary to arouse discussion of the fact that you have obtained this picture for your theatre.

Forget that this picture is but two reel in length, but bear in mind that no matter what else you have on your program with it, this is the picture about which your audiences will talk. Therefore, you will find it profitable to arouse your reviewers to this fact. Let them build their reviews on it. Special runs of the picture might be arranged for the Boy Scouts and other organizations named elsewhere in this sheet.

A monument in Central Park, New York, an address that held up official business in the United States Senate for half an hour, songs, poems, stories,—in fact almost universal discussion of this exploit—leave no doubt of the fact that the deed of Balto and Kasson has gripped the imagination of every thinking adult in America. Now it is within your power to let them see the man, the dogs and the actual saving of Nome reenacted before their eyes!

Could anybody ask for bigger, or more receptive "ready made" audiences?

EPIC OF BALTO AND KASSON MAY BE LAST OF ITS KIND IN HISTORY

Radio and Aeroplanes Wiping Out Barriers on Far Frontiers.

tragic results of a diphtheria epidemic began within eleven days after the completion of the dash across the snowcovered wastes of the Far North.

When preparations were first made for the filming of the picture it was not known whether the carrying of the life-giving serum into Nome would be successfully accomplished.

But when Gunnar Kasson and Balto dragged weary feet into Nome at 5:30 o'clock on the never to be forgotten morning of February 2, Kasson was greeted with a cablegram asking him to return at once to the nearest port where he and his dogs might ship to Seattle to repeat their trip in the snows

"Mushers" are men of quick decisions. Kasson slept until 4 o'clock in the afternoon—the first sleep in forty-eight hours—and started back to Nenana. Ten days later he was trying to evade recention committees in to evade reception committees in Seattle which sought to do the two heroes—man and dog—the honor that

was their due.
"This is just one of the possibilities of the screen that occur so seldom, but always justify the motion picture camera," said Sol Lesser, the producer. "Alaskans say that the coming of the aeroplane, radio and more general use of the telegraph and telephone have made this sort of exploit the last of

made this sort of exploit the last of its kind we may expect to see.

"Kasson, and to no less a degree his dog, Balto, have lived up to the highest ideals of the stalwart race that first won the West in our more familiar states and now are completing their task in the Far North.

"A record of this exploit, viewed by our children a quarter of a century from today, when good roads, plenty of automobiles and possibly an equally general use of the aeroplane will have made the wilds of the North submit to the needs of man, should go far to make men respect those who have made the men respect those who have made the world more livable, and brought the frontiers of civilization to our very firesides."



BALTO, hero of the famous dash to save Nome

BALTO'S RACE TO NOME"

For Electro Order No. 3687-E For Mat (Free) Order No. 3687-M

TRAVELS FAR TO WELCOME BALTO

(Prepared as advance publicity story) When Balto, canine hero of the desperate dash to Nome, first arrived in

a bag.
"I can get there by that day myself," And, although eighty years old, she did.

RACE TO NOME? Balto is Pure Siberian

WHAT KIND OF DOG IS HERO OF

and Not Malamute as Supposed

(Prepared as advance publicity story) Balto, canine hero of the most re-markable frontier exploit of the last

theatre and it will be shown there beginning

What manner of dog and man is it
that made this race about which a
nation exclaimed in wonder?

Gunnar Kasson is a typical frontiersman. Six foot two in his walrus hide
boots, lean-limbed, two hundred odd
pounds of bone and sinew, he is of the
type that wrested the West from the
wilderness: of the breed that shouldwilderness; of the breed that should-ered axe and rifle and hewed Kentucky and the middle west from the dark and the middle west from the dark forests. His type led the gold-rush to California and was in the van of every wagon train that plodded into Oregon and later braved the rigors of Alaska in the first gold rush to the Klondike and the treasure laden sands

of Nome.

The sled dog is a figure less familiar in frontier history but without which the conquest of Alaska would have been impossible.

Balto is a pure blooded Siberian who, until after the present exploit, never had seen any world except the limited sphere bounded by the scraggly growth about Nome.

He is six years old—the prime of a carrying dog's life—is a brownish black and was endowed by nature with white stockings.
Unlike the malamute, which is half

wolf, the Siberian has an unswerving affection for his master and turns a friendly eye toward all human kind. Only when his master, or the load he is carrying, is threatened with at-tack will he uncover his sabre-like fangs and emit the ominous snarl that usually is sufficient to drive away any enemy. Balto was the "shaft dog" of the

Balto was the "shaft dog" of the team—the dog nearest the sled. When the blinding blizzard stopped the lead dog, Kasson substituted three other dogs but each refused to break trail or face the killing storm. Kasson then took Balto from his position, harnessed him at the head of the line—and Balto, the smallest dog in the outfit—bored into the storm, found and held the trail and literally dragged the exhausted team into Nome.

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"BALTO'S RACE TO NOME" SHEER DRAMA OF MOST THRILLING KIND

DOG AND DRIVER OF FAMOUS RACE REENACT DASH

Re-enactment of Battle with Elements Dwarfs Fiction or Stage

(Newspaper review for use after showing of picture)
That occasional glimpse of real life

heroism that serves to bring a real-ization of the weakness of all make-believe heroics and to dwarf the imagination of the most talented fiction writer or dramatist is again before us with a vengeance.

Make-believe heroes, strutting in a make-believe atmosphere, braving make-believe dangers sometimes fur-nish drama and thrilling moments on the stage or screen, but no actor ever injected into his work the sheer drama and thrills that the producers have caught in "Balto's Race To Nome," the Educational Pictures Special which is showing at thetheatre.
There is nothing artificial or make

believe about Kasson the driver, or Balto, the Siberian sledge dog, the two heroes of the great struggle with the elements to save Nome, Alaska, from the grip of a diphtheria epidemic. Man and dogs are fresh from the frozen North, and their heoric performance is still fresh in the minds of the nation. still fresh in the minds of the nation.

The picturization of their struggle, filmed on Mt. Ranier, contains the high-lights of the actual life and death race which thrilled a nation. Balto and Kasson are real heroes and the picture is a re-enactment of their heroic

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Every move of Gunnar Kasson and his dog Balto, unschooled as they are in the ways of the camera worker, is sheer drama-because it is true.

HEROES OF RACE **FURNISH THRILLS**

(Newspaper review for use after showing of picture)

Balto himself, the famous Siberian sledge dog, together with his heroic driver, Gunnar Kasson, re-enacting for the camera their desperate race.

This remarkable picture is not a product of stage props or actors; it is an actual reproduction of a historic event, an episode in the life of a sturdy frontiersman and a brave dog-a cam-era record of one of the greatest deeds of pluck and heroism within the last

The picture was made in the deep snows of Mt. Ranier with Kasson and his dog team headed by Balto.



GUNNAR KASSON appearing in BALTO'S RACE TO NOME Educational Special

For Electro Order No. 3688-E For Mat (Free) Order No. 3688-M

Balto and Kasson Star in Remarkable Film of Frozen North

(Newspaper review for use after showing of picture)

Long after the fame of the present day motion picture or stage actor has passed into oblivion, the names of Gunnar Kasson and Balto, his dog, will be fresh in the minds of the American public. And long after actormade screen dramas have been forgotten, the memory of "Balto's Race To Nome" will remain.

This little picture which is at the Theatre, filmed to preserve for history the reenactment of the famous race with death to save a stricken city, presents Gunnar Kasson, the driver of the last desperate lap of the race, and Balto the Siberian husky who held the trail in the face of a killing blizzard and without whom Kasson would have been lost, in a remarkably convincing and real picture showing the high-lights of their historic race.

The picture was filmed in the twenty foot snows of Mt. Ranier and brings home to the spectator in a thrilling and dramatic manner, what perils and hardships the plucky dog and driver contended with. It is sheer drama, rendered doubly effective by the presence on the screen of the two heroes who performed the original exploit.

The picture was produced by Sol

Lesser.

SPECIAL EXPLOITATION

When Balto and Kasson were welcomed to Los Angeles they were tendered a reception by members and representatives of various civic and national associations. The organizations represented in the reception were:

Boy Scouts American Red Cross **National Guard** Rotary Club Chamber of Commerce Y. M. C. A. American Legion American Hospital Association

Lion's Club City Administration Society Prevention Cruelty to Animals. American Association of Engineers Kiwanis Club Disabled Veterans World War County Board of Supervisors

Correspond with the secretaries or the heads of the above organizations in your city and secure their cooperation. Secure lists of their members and circularize them. Cooperate with the Board of Education and by running special childrens' matinees or morning performances you can add many dollars to your box-office receipts on this picture.

CASH IN ON THIS SPECIAL!!

"Balto's Race To Nome" is without doubt, one of the best Short Subjects ever issued for advertising

It is doubtful whether any single event in the last decade has aroused such universal interest as did this heroic and successful effort to save diphtheria stricken Nome and the more-than-dramatic way in which it was accomplished. Thousands of columns of newspaper space all over the American continent were devoted to the struggle and to the accomplishment of it and as many more columns have been devoted to publicity on the heroic man and his lead-dog since then.

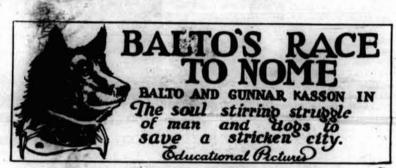
Every man, woman and child who can read has heard the story of the dash through blinding and freezing blizzards, over desolate waste-lands in killing belowzero weather; how Kasson pushed on when his relief failed him and how he himself lost the trail after his strongest dogs had given out and how Balto, shaft-dog of the team was placed in the lead and found and held the trail through a storm so thick that Kasson could not see twenty feet ahead. The narrative will be one of the remembered tales of brave deeds long after the present generation has passed on.

Realize that you have one of the biggest box-office specials ever offered to you and exploit it and advertise it accordingly. Make it the big feature of your advertising—and advertise more than has been your custom. This two reel Special has all the drawing power of the biggest feature you ever booked-but you must advertise and exploit it.

Educational has prepared an array of cuts to be used in advertising and publicity. Get them from your exchange and use them liberally. The electros are sold at a nominal cost and the mats are free. Order from your exchange, by number.



One Column by One Inch "Ad" Cut For Electro Order No. 3690-E For Mat (Free) Order No. 3690-M



Two Column by One and One half Inch "Ad" Cut For Electro Order No. 3691-E For Mat (Free) Order No. 3691-M

For Three Column Cut on Page One Order Electro No. 3692-E Mat (Free) Order No. 3692-M

ACCESSORIES

Hand Colored Slides Four Color One Sheets Duo-Tint 11 x 14 Lobby Cards (Eight Cards to Set)

Black and White 8 x 10 Photos (Ten Photos to Set)

One Column Publicity Cuts and Mats Two Column Publicity Cuts and Mats One Column by One Inch "Ad" Cuts and Mats Two Column by One and One Half Inch "Ad" Cuts and Mats

Three Column by Six Inch "Ad" Cuts and Mats (All Mats Free)

And The Fullest Cooperation from Your Exchange (Cuts and Mats must be ordered by number)

CATCHLINES For Newspaper "Ads"

"Balto's Race To Nome"—the epic of the frozen north, reenacted by the heroes, Gunnar Kasson and Balto, the wonder-dog.

The great struggle with death—the race through the frozen wastes of the North to save a plague-stricken city—See it in "Balto's Race To Nome" with Gunnar Kasson and Balto.

Balto, the hero-dog and Kasson, his brave master. in "Balto's Race To Nome"—a reenactment of the great life-and-death struggle which stirred the world.

More thrilling than the greatest drama ever written! the reenactment of the great dash to save a city— "Balto's Race To Nome," with Gunnar Kasson and Balto himself!

This document is from the Library of Congress "Motion Picture Copyright Descriptions Collection, 1912-1977"

Collections Summary:

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